



State Water Resources Control Board

Virtual and Teleconference Meeting During COVID-19 Emergency

This meeting will occur via <u>remote presence only</u> as a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing.

Notice of Public Meeting

Identification of an Administrator for North Edwards Water District November 9, 2020, 6:00pm

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) invites you to attend a meeting to learn about California Rural Water Association/Specialized Utility Services Program (CRWA/SUSP) as a potential administrator to the North Edwards Water District (District). The purpose of this meeting is to provide information on the following:

- Current status of drinking water in the North Edwards Water District.
- Purpose and role of an administrator.
- Administrator qualifications, conflicts of interest, and scope of work.

The meeting will also include an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide comments. The public can submit questions and comments through **November 16, 2020**.

MEETING LOGISTICS

- If you wish to join the meeting via Zoom: <u>https://waterboards.zoom.us/j/96235558384?pwd=MndYTmIzRE1XZE1DUVIabmpqZGNmZz0</u> <u>9</u>
- If you wish to join the meeting by telephone: +1 669 900 9128 Meeting ID: 962 3555 8384 Passcode: 045811

LANGUAGE SERVICES

To request language interpretation or sign language services, please submit your request at least 10 business days before the meeting by contacting Marina Pérez at (916) 322-4265.

ACCESSIBILITY

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

MEETING REGISTRATION

Use this link to register for this meeting: https://waterboards.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlvdOytqzMpEtBVvNm-quCKFMkK_R5v3qui

MEETING MATERIALS

Meeting materials and details on remote participation are <u>available online</u> and will be emailed to registered participants before the meeting.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mail: Karen Nishimoto, P.E., State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water 500 N. Central Avenue, Suite 500, Glendale, CA 91203

Email: DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov

BACKGROUND

On June 24, 2020, the State Water Board, in collaboration with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), designated the North Edwards Water District as a water system in need of an administrator because it has not consistently provided an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water to its customers. Escalating enforcement actions for violating the arsenic maximum contaminant level have been issued since 2009, culminating in the U.S. EPA's 2020 administrative order to the District. Currently, households served by the District are approved to receive bottled water from Self-Help Enterprise's Regional Bottled Water Program.

The State Water Board proposes appointing an administrator for the District to manage the water system. All actions taken by an administrator are required to be in the best interest of the community served by the water system and include the following:

- Developing access to an adequate supply of safe and affordable drinking water.
- Holding public meetings at least every three months.

Any ratepayer, renter, or property owner who receives water from a designated water system can submit a petition to the State Water Board to reverse or modify an administrator decision or to replace an administrator. A description of this process and the administrator authority is contained in Health and Safety Code Section 116686 and in the State Water Board's Administrator Policy Handbook (Sept. 2019).

Information on Proposed Administrator

NAME OF ADMINISTRATOR: CRWA/SUSP has been identified as a viable candidate to be appointed as an administrator of the North Edwards Water District. Their qualifications include:

- Staff has combined 150 years' experience in water system management and operation
- Currently provides operational and management services to eight communities
- Experience planning solutions for water quality problems

SCOPE OF APPOINTMENT & SERVICES PROVIDED: This administrator will be a Full-Scope Administrator as defined in the Administrator Policy Handbook available online at <u>waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/agendas/2019/sept/091719_6_cs1_cleanversion.pdf</u>.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: No conflict of interest has been found by the State Water Board or reported by CRWA/SUSP at this time. If at any time a proposed action would create a conflict of interest, an administrator is required to provide written notice the State Water Board in addition to all ratepayers, renters and property owners, who receive water service from the designated water system 30 days prior to taking the action.

More information: Contact Karen Nishimoto at (818) 551-2049 or <u>Karen.Nishimoto@waterboards.ca.gov</u>, or visit the Water Board website at: <u>waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/administrator.html</u>